

Serial No.: 09/977,466  
Filing Date: October 15, 2001  
Our Docket: 442-128  
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REMARKS

Applicants have carefully considered the Office Action dated May 5, 2004 and provide the following response thereto. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, the Examiner has indicated that Claims 1-15 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph as set forth in the Office Action. Applicants gratefully acknowledge this indication of allowable subject matter.

In the Office Action, the Examiner has noted that the Priority Document filed by the Applicants is not in the application file. Accordingly, Applicants file herewith an additional certified copy of the Priority Document.

The Examiner has indicated that the Abstract should be amended in order to conform with U.S. practice. Applicants have, in this Amendment, amended the Abstract in order to address the Examiner's comments.

The Examiner also contends that the title is not clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed. Accordingly, Applicants have amended the title to read: "A Bus Repeater for Coupling a First and Second Bus". Applicants respectfully submit that this title adequately describes the claimed invention.

The Examiner has objected to the drawings for failing to include a suitable legend for each of the functional blocks on Figs. 1 and 2. The Examiner indicates that the drawings are acceptable for examination purposes, however, formal drawings would be required when the application is allowed. Applicants have filed herewith a proposed drawing change. Figures 1 and 2 have been amended to include a description of the functional blocks. With regard to the resistors, Applicants have designated the letter "R" to refer to resistors which Applicants submit

would be understood by one skilled in the art. Applicants respectfully request approval of these proposed drawing changes. Upon approval of the drawings, Applicants will file formal drawings.

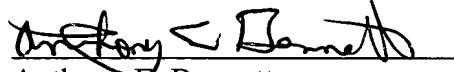
The Examiner has rejected Claims 1-15 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim a subject matter which the Applicant regards as the invention. Applicants have amended the claims in order to address the issues raised by the Examiner. Applicants have also made minor amendments to the claims in order to correct grammatical or antecedent basis informalities. Applicants submit that the amendments of claims do not narrow the scope of the claims.

In addition, a minor typographical informality has also been corrected in the specification.

As a result of the amendments and comments set forth above, Applicants respectfully request that the application be moved toward allowance.

If the Examiner believes that a telephone interview would be helpful in moving this case toward allowance, he is respectfully invited to contact Applicants' attorney at the number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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